
Grady County Historical Society – Churches

Trinity Baptist

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AS

May 20, 1965

MEMO TO RSR, JR.

In re: Trinity Baptist Church on Hawthorne Trail near the old Sapp Place.

The tracing I have made from the R. C. Bell Grady County Map that I enclose, you will note that I have put Trinity Baptist Church location near the Sapp Mill, and maybe a half mile or more north of where he now has it on his map. I have marked on one of my maps in pencil this for I don't think there is any doubt but what it's correct, for Bascom Belcher remembers this himself. And I believe I have sent you information on the deed to the Tired Creek Methodist Church of 1874, giving the lot. And it should be in the Lot 79 if it is where the Trinity Church is on R. C. Bell map.

The road from Roddenbery Cross Roads up northward that runs into Hawthorne Trail is not the way it is in the Bell map, for the road has been paved and I have traced this the way Bascom traced it for me on my map. And now I understand why Sunnyside School is located where it is on the Bell map and it is correct. For I remember now that the present road is east of where that old road was running from Cross Roads up northward to the Hawthorne Trail.

In blue I am changing the road that now is the paved road, and you will understand this for I didn't believe Sunnyside School was where it was on the Bell map, but now I understand it. And, of course, without a doubt that's correct for the one acre of land was given in Lot 42 in Sixteenth District and that's where the little dot is for Sunnyside School as known in 1905, but was Tired Creek School in 1860 when they gave the one acre of land. Of course, they might have called it Tired Creek School then because it was Tired Creek community and then later changed to Sunnyside School. But I suppose the proper way to describe that first school would be that originally known as Tired Creek School, the land being deeded for it in 1860 but later changed to Sunnyside School and discontinued as a schoolhouse in 1930 and the building was torn down in 1955. Or what part of it you might want to put in it.

This, of course, definitely is the school that Papa and Aunt Bertha rode to and I wish we had the name of that first teacher.

Now on the Trinity Baptist Church, Bascom and his folks know all about this and know it was very close to Richard Williams' place, and Uncle Bob likely will remember that, and I remember where he lived too, and where I have put it on the map is very close to being right; namely, would be about half way where the Tired Creek Methodist Church now is and the McKelvey Creek where it crosses the Hawthorne Trail.

Do you want me to try to get any other information about Trinity Baptist Church where I put it on the pencil sheet herewith.

Over in Spring Hill District, just a few miles westward, there is another Trinity Church. It may be another denomination.

5/30/65

The reason I'm discussing this Trinity Baptist Church as much as I am, it would not be amiss that there be a Baptist Church in that rural Cairo postoffice area.

Since I have been on the School Board of Trustees the white schools have changed from about 30 in Grady County, most of them one room schools, down to five white schools. And we have many other roads, and better roads, of course.

Wife Should it be that Uncle Bob's memory is that this school Papa first went to *flex* Sunnyside School, of course it could easily be that way. But the deed was made for a Tired Creek School Trustees.

JBR

June 25, 1965

JBR

In re: Baptist Church on Hawthorne Trail

I talked with Pearl Belcher this afternoon by telephone and she conferred with her mother during the conversation.

Here is a new angle.

The deed from Mr. Griffin in 1874 indicated there was already a church on the location. Mrs. Belcher thinks it might have been a Baptist Church that had been abandoned, although she does not know what it was called.

They think possibly there was an abandoned church building there, and Mr. Griffin who lived about where the Earl Bell place is, possibly desiring to have the Tired Creek church nearer to his home, gave the land where a building already stood.

Mrs. Belcher did not know about another Baptist Church building between there and the Sapp Mill.

However, when I talked with Irene Williams Pippin several days ago, she said that Grandma Williams (Lula Belle Ricks and sister of Mrs. Belcher) had told her she remembered when the Tired Creek Methodist Church was moved to that location, and in walking by one day she picked up a little mallet, I suppose it was, that the carpenters had thrown away while building the church. Mrs. Williams died a few years ago but was in her 90's and her mind very clear up to a year or so

Likely if there was a building already there, it was repaired or possibly town down and an entire new building erected

Can't see this as not many to 1900 or make it to Part 4

before her death

I think it best to say nothing about any church north or northwest of Cairo except Long Branch Baptist and Tired Creek Methodist. I have found nothing about any Trinity church except what is on the 1906 R.C. Bell map.

Better to say nothing than to print an error. Brief mention will be made of Bald Springs Baptist and Bald Springs Methodist (called Wesleyan) because they had a connection with Cairo.

Do let's forget Trinity
Sunday June 27, 1965.